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Animal Science

Fall 2015

ANSC, Fall 2015

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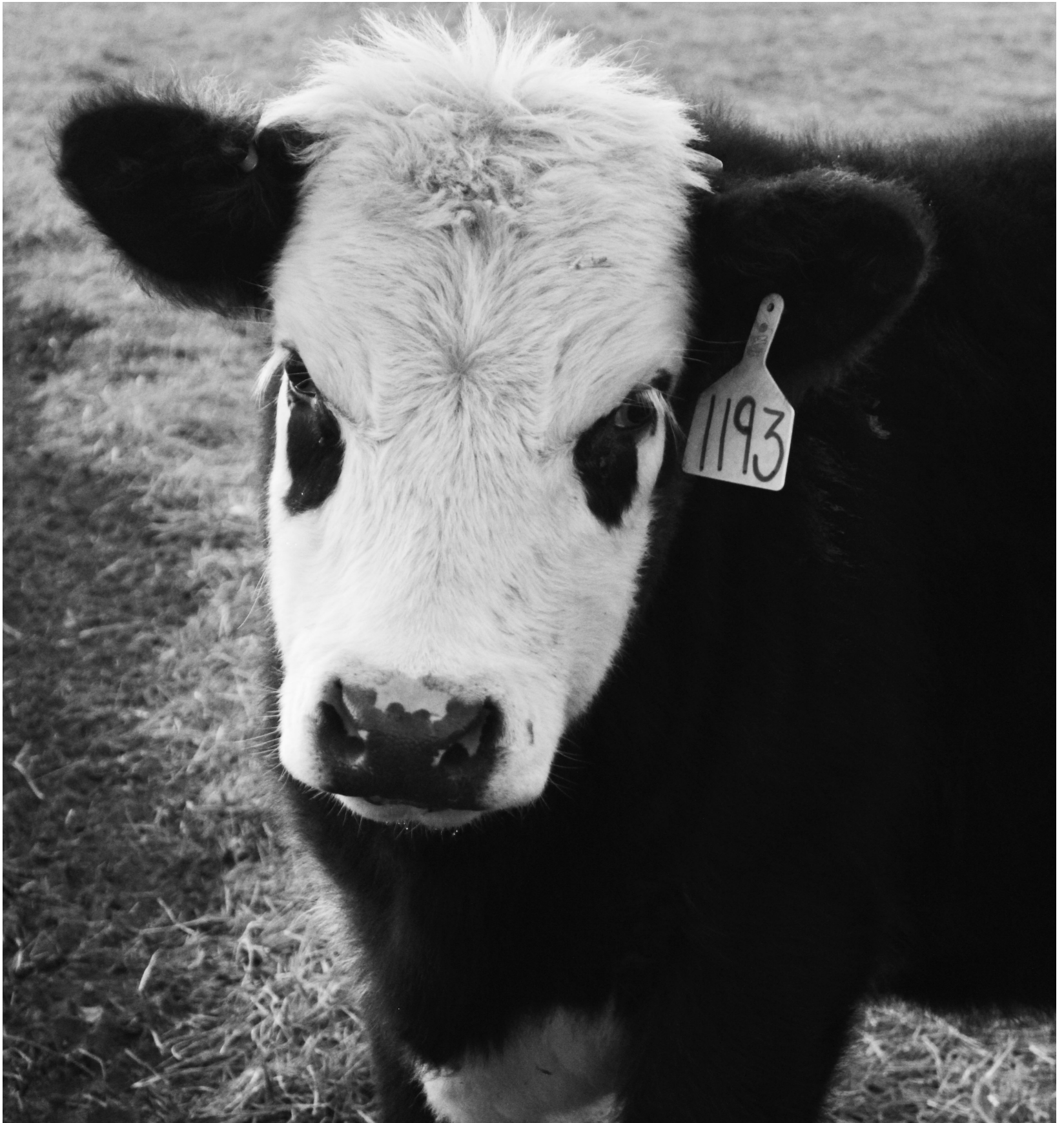
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ANSC

{animal science}

fall 2015



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Animal Science - UA

U of A
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System



In the Loop



Michael Looper
Department
Head

Happy Holidays from the Department of Animal Science! We welcome five new faculty including Drs. Chelsey Ahrens, Yan Huang, Kathi Jogan, James Koltes, and Heidi Ward. You will find more about their background and program emphasis in the following pages. In the Spring, the Department will seek an assistant professor in the equine area with expectations that person will be on Campus for the Fall 2016 semester.

On a sad note, I join the faculty and staff of the Department in expressing our sadness and condolences to the wife and family of Dr. Jack Perkins, who passed on November 25th, 2015. Jack joined the Department in 1965 and actively served in teaching and research, in the area of reproductive physiology in beef cattle. He coached the livestock judging team for 30 years.

As part of the Foreign Agricultural Service's annual tour, Animal Science met with 27 diplomatic staff from around the world at the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center for dinner and to learn more about agricultural programs. This group was co-hosted by the Arkansas Department of Agriculture and the Arkansas Cattlemen's Association.

The 2nd Annual Animal Science Day was a huge success! Over 400 people enjoyed a haunted house, costume contests, judging contest, and much more. Thank you to all that made this event a great community outreach for alumni and friends of the Department.

I encourage you to review Animal Science research in our recently published 2015 Arkansas Animal Science Department Report

<http://arkansasagnews.uark.edu/628.pdf>. Remember the upcoming Arkansas 4-H Stallion Service Auction, www.arkansasstallionauction.com opening on January 14th, 2016. This is a fund raising effort to assist the Arkansas 4-H Horse Program as well as the Horse Judging Team. Contact Mark Russell for more information.

If you have not seen the recent renovations to the Agriculture, Food and Life Science building, I invite you to come see this impressive remodel of the teaching facilities for our growing student population. The approximately 13,500 square feet renovated space includes: a 100-student auditorium, three additional classrooms, a 12-student seminar room, and a teaching lab. The space also includes a new meat display lab and a walk-in freezer. This was completed just prior to classes beginning this Fall.

If you keep up with the Departmental website, you realize we have a new address (<http://animal-science.uark.edu>) and are in the process of updating our web presence. It is anticipated those changes should be completed in the next couple of months.

As always, the quickest way to keep up with the Department's activities is through our Department's Facebook and Twitter pages. Please let us know if we can help you. Feel free to contact me looper@uark.edu; (479) 575-3745 or stop by and visit when you are in Fayetteville.

Best Regards,

Michael Looper
Department Head

Departmental Achievements

► Congratulations to Hadley Twilley (35 years); Linda Jones (20 years) and Janeal Yancey (10 years) for their years of service to the University and this Department.

► Lensey Watson, was recently named an Outstanding Jr. Block & Bridle member in the national Block & Bridle organization.

5 Stallion Auction

The University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture is holding a stallion service auction to benefit 4-H horse programs and the UA Horse Judging team.

4 Animal Science Day

The Department held its second annual Animal Science Day on October 30.

9 Lab Offers Experience

First time applied nutrition lab experiment offers unique hands-on experience.

7 Livestock Judging Team

The judging team finishes their season in Louisville.

10 ANSC Alumni Society

The Department is working to establish an Animal Science Alumni society.

11 New Faculty

The Department has welcomed several new faculty to its ranks.

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Cover Photo by: Mariah Farmer



Support Animal Science Department Scholarships

By buying a chairback in the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center

You can support scholarships for Department of Animal Science students and receive permanent recognition by purchasing a chairback in the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center. Purchases are tax deductible and can be made in the name of an individual, a business, or in honor or memory of a loved one or friend. If you are a former judging team member and would like to purchase a seat in honor of your judging team, contact Bryan

Kutz at 479-575-4337.

Chairbacks are available for a minimum donation of \$500, although many individuals have donated more.

If you would like to help with scholarships by purchasing a chairback, fill out the form to the right and mail it with a check made out to Agricultural Development Council, with a notation of Arena Chairback to the address on the form at the right.

Chairback Order Form

Please use separate page if needed.

Donor Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please list information desired on chairback:

Make checks payable to:

Agricultural Development Council

Please make a notation: Arena Chairback

Mail to: Connie Stewart

University of Arkansas

1120 W. Maple

Dept. of Animal Science

Fayetteville, AR 72701

Second Annual Animal Science Day

On October 30, over 400 people could be found roaming around the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center while taking in the sights and activities of the second annual Animal Science Day.

All of the Department's student organizations were represented by tables and activities, and the strains of the bluegrass music of

OZARK FLAVOR could be heard throughout the arena. Down the hall, screams were the soundtrack of choice in the haunted house that the Animal Science Graduate Student Association spent so many hours creating and staffing.

With three different costume contest categories: kids, adults and dog everyone got into

the Halloween spirit.

Also helping keep the crowds entertained was a horse costume contest, a sheep dog demonstration and an Old Timers judging competition. It was a great time and we hope to top it next year.}



Second Annual Razorback Stallion Service Auction

Beginning January 14, 2016, the 2nd Annual Arkansas 4-H Stallion Service Auction will take place online and will assist the Arkansas 4-H Horse Program as well as the University of Arkansas Horse Judging Team. There will be a variety of cutter, working cow, halter and pleasure stallions. The auction will be open for three weeks and will close on February 3, 2016.

Breedings to the following stallions will be available for 2016. Cutting/Cow Type Horses will include: Spots Hot; Dual R Smokin; Bama Cat; A Little Smoke; Mississippi Cat; Mandalay Rey; Im Countin Checks; CD Shadow; Stylish Rey Gay; Reydioactive; Travelin Jonez; Neat Little Cat; Laker Doc; A Tale Of The Cat; Rockin W; and Thomas E Hughes. Reining Horses include: Hold That Cow; The Chex Factor; and The Royal Whiz. Western Pleasure/All-Around Horses include: PSU Dynamic Krymsun; Certain Potential; Double Up Investment; and A Dream Remembered. Speed/Racing Horses will include: Ill Shine Too; and Doctor Rachel. Halter Horses will include: Playgirls RC Renegade; Enquest; and Art of Enquest. We are working to add more, so continue to check the website, you can find the address below, for an updated list.

Proceeds going to the 4-H Horse Program, will primarily fund: scholarships; internships; learning opportunities such as camps and workshops; national travel to various competitions; equipment for ac-

tivities; and books and other learning tools for 4-H horse clubs in Arkansas. While the proceeds for the U of A Horse Judging Team, will fund: travel costs associated with the Judging Competition; registration fees; and scholarships.

4-H Horse Program activities are designed to teach youth leadership, responsibility, pride, respect, initiative and self-reliance. The 4-H Horse Program provides dedicated, hard-working youth with an opportunity to learn the tools to enhance horse ownership.

The University Judging Team offers students a rare opportunity to receive a head start in the horse industry before leaving college. Students gain knowledge in areas such as evaluating, decision making, communicating and teamwork, among other benefits. These students receive a "leg up" on the competition when seeking employment in the equine industry. Team members also develop contacts while on judging trips to the AQHA World Show, AQHA Congress, NCHA Triple Crown Events and the NRHA Futurity, along with other regional judging contests. These con-



tacts will be valuable resources as they continue their endeavors after college.

You can visit www.arkansasstallionauction.com to keep up with the latest information, or like our Facebook page: "Arkansas 4-H Stallion Service Auction." For specific questions, contact Mark Russell, 501-590- 5748 or mrrussell@uaex.edu. }

4-H Veterinary Program Working Toward Accreditation

The 4-H Veterinary Science Program is working on becoming accredited as an Approved Veterinary Assistant Program through the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America.

The program currently focuses on career development in veterinary science and is designed to be a part of the One Health Initiative, which is national movement that strives to unite human and veterinary medicine.

To achieve their new goal of helping students earn an Approved Veterinary Assistant Certification, a joint committee has been formed with the Arkansas Veterinary

Medical Association. Members of the committee include: Drs. Dwaine Dickey, Karen Sherman and Susan Weinstein; as well as 4-H agents Jeannie Rowbotham and Maileigha Cook; Ward is serving as the program coordinator.

The joint committee is redesigning the program to include video lessons, which are taught exclusively by Arkansas veterinarians and technicians. Once they have the changes in place, the committee will apply for accreditation.

"The best thing about this program is that the students will learn about all aspects of

veterinary science including different career paths as a veterinarian, veterinary technician or veterinary assistant," said Heidi Ward, an assistant professor and veterinarian for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture.

The 4-H Veterinary Science Program is also sponsoring a trip to Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Sciences in April, and a three day camp at Arkansas Tech University in June.

For information about this program or any of the events, please contact Heidi Ward at hward@uaex.edu or 501.671.2162. }

Attachés Learn About Arkansas Agriculture

On August 30, agricultural attachés from around the world gathered at the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center for dinner and to learn more about agricultural programs at the University of Arkansas. Dinner was prepared for the group by the Arkansas Cattlemen and Arkansas Secretary of Agriculture, Wes Ward.

The group of 27, which was part of the Foreign Agricultural Service's annual foreign attaché tour, traveled to both Arkansas and Louisiana for an in-depth look at each state's agricultural business.

They toured farms, processing and shipping plants and universities/research institutions. Jason Apple, Animal Science Professor, spoke to the delegates about the Department's research and future research opportunities.

The European Union, Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Australia and a few individual European countries all had delegates present. 2015 marks the second time that the tour has traveled to Arkansas, and the Arkansas Cattlemen provided dinner for the group. }



The Arkansas Cattlemen and Arkansas Secretary of Agriculture, Wes Ward cook dinner for a group of agricultural attaches from around the world.

Big Changes Taking Place in the AFLS Building

There have been massive changes made to the Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences building, which is home to the Department of Animal Science.

Beginning last spring, the downstairs and some areas of the upper level of the building were renovated into class, meeting, office and lab spaces.

The Department is also working on renovating several lab spaces for new faculty, as well as converting an old computer lab into new graduate student offices. Drop in and check out our new spaces if you are in the area. }



Honoring the Life of Dr. Jack Perkins

Dr. Jack Perkins, age 81, of Fayetteville, died Wednesday, November 25, 2015 in Fayetteville. He was born May 4, 1934 in Chapel, West Virginia, the son of Enos and Opal Palmer Perkins. He served in the U. S. Army as an intelligence analyst from 1956 through 1958. He holds a bachelor's and master's degrees from West Virginia University and a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University.



Dr. Jack Perkins

He joined the faculty of the University of Arkansas in 1965 as an Assistant Professor, was promoted to Associate Professor in 1969, to Professor in 1973 and served as Interim Department Head from 1994 to 1995. Dr. Perkins enjoyed an impressive career with emphasis on undergraduate advising and instruction as well as conducting research in reproductive efficiency in beef cattle.

Jack received both the Alpha Zeta and Gamma Sigma Delta teaching awards. He was devoted to providing leadership and instruction to the agricultural community through public service. He coached the livestock judging teams for 30 years. Above all, Dr. Jack Perkins was devoted to helping young people believe in themselves and reach their true potential. Many Arkansas alumni, who achieved great success, attribute their success to the leadership they received from Dr. Perkins.

Because of his outstanding career and contributions to the State of Arkansas, the Department of Animal Science was proud to name Dr. Jack Perkins a Friend of the Department of Animal Science. Dr. Perkins was also a blue grass fiddler.

He is survived by his wife, Judy Perkins; two sons, James Mack Perkins of Fayetteville and John Eric Perkins and his wife Betty of Ocean Springs, Mississippi and two grandchildren, Nicholas Perkins and Brianna Perkins-Marquier.

Memorials may be made to the Jack Perkins Scholarship, E108 AFLS Building, University of Arkansas or a charity of choice. }

Judging Team Finishes Year with Success and an All-American

The University of Arkansas livestock judging team completed its eligibility with a year of success and one team member named All American.

Intercollegiate livestock judging is a competition where a team of five students individually evaluate 12 classes of livestock, which can include cattle, swine, sheep and goats. After evaluating the classes and marking a placing, students present eight oral reasons defending their placing of particular classes. A typical contest will start at 8 a.m. and not finish until after 5 p.m.

Members of the 2015 UA livestock judging team include Blaine French and Trenton Tosh from Batesville, Arkansas; Emily Hasenauer from Wallace, Nebraska; Jacie Sweeney from Hermitage, Arkansas; Kolton Moore from Cave City, Arkansas; and Morgan Marley from Elkins, Arkansas.

This year the team traveled over 15 thousand miles competing in 12 livestock judging contests in nine different states.

There are more incentives to judge livestock in college than having an understanding of how to evaluate livestock. At the last awards banquet in Louisville, Kentucky, eleven individuals were awarded All American. The criteria for this award is based on six categories: livestock judging performance, grade point average, statement of career goals and community, industry



Coach Bryan Kutz, Emily Hasenauer, Morgan Marley, Jacie Sweeney, Kolton Moore, Trenton Tosh, Blaine French after the awards banquet at the NAILE.

and university involvement. This year UA student Morgan Marley was named an All American because of her involvement in the livestock industry, judging and school. Marley was also named an All American in 2012 when she judged livestock for Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College.

“Being successful in my academic work is something I strive for on a daily basis,” Marley said. “But my characteristics that allow me to be successful came from judging livestock and my agriculture background. I wish there were more students, especially at the University of Arkansas, that were involved in judging.”

Bryan Kutz, UA livestock judging team coach, has been at the UA for 18 years and coached 12 teams. The 2015 team is one to remember because they are intelligent individuals with a passion for the livestock industry.

“This team of kids is more like a close-knit family,” Kutz said. “They never complained about the long hours spent traveling or missing class. Each one originated from a diversified livestock background which helped make them successful judges because they have knowledge of the production livestock world. Being a successful team is a combination of being smart, having strong work ethic and having a passion for livestock. This team had it all.” }

2015 Livestock Judging Team Results

Arizona National Livestock Show, Phoenix, Ariz.: Reserve Champion Team

Northwestern Stock Show, Denver: Seventh Team Overall, Third Team in Carload Contest

Dixie National, Jackson, Miss.: Champion Team

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Houston: Seventh Team Overall

National Barrow Show, Austin, Minn.: Tenth Team Overall

Aksarben, Omaha, Neb.: Fifth Team Overall

State Fair of Texas, Dallas: Third Team Overall

Tulsa State Fair, Tulsa, Okla.: Eighth Team Overall

Mid-America, Hutchinson, Kan.: Reserve Champion Team

American Royal, Kansas City, Mo.: Eleventh Team Overall

North American International Livestock Exposition, Louisville, Ky.: Sixth Team Overall

Block & Bridle

The Block & Bridle club had a busy fall semester, and are already planning their spring semester. Events will include their annual Razorback Classic Cattle Show and the Association of Northwest Arkansas Riding Club (ANWARC) Horse Show.

The Razorback Classic is a cattle jackpot show for cattle exhibitors across Northwest Arkansas, it doesn't have an exact date yet, but will be in March. The show will be sanctioned by the Arkansas Junior Angus Association so that the placings will count for the exhibitor's point system for year-end awards.

In years past there has also been a ring where all the entry fee money is donated to a charity program like Arkansas Children's Hospital or St. Jude's Children's Hospital. At this show we give students that did not grow up in the livestock world a chance to experience what happens in the show ring.

The club's members do everything in preparation for the show including: gathering donations, advertising, making t-shirts, getting the show sanctioned, registration, ring work, announcing, lining exhibitors up and running concession stands.

April 16th and 17th the Block & Bridle club will host the Gaited division and Open division horse show where students will get the opportunity to aid in running the show including: registering exhibitors; lining horses up for their respective classes; working one on one with the judge during the show; passing out ribbons to those winning exhibitors; and gain experience checking coggins papers on all horses that enter the arena parking lot.

More information will be released as it becomes available to keep watching the Animal Science Facebook page and Website. }

REPS

The Department of Animal Science REPS kept a packed schedule this semester.

The REPS helped host the "Meat & Greet;" promoted Animal Science at Razorbash; gave several prospective student tours; and helped the graduate students with the haunted house for Animal Science Day.

This semester the REPS also opted to host a chili lunch for all students that have classes in the Agricultural Food and Life Sciences building.

They also spent quite a bit of time helping to write the January issue of the American Society of Animal Science's Junior Animal Scientist Magazine. The REPS wrote all of the articles as well as creating a few activities that were tied to the issues theme of animal babies.

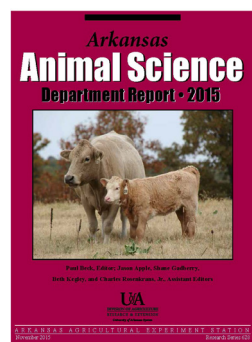
This year's members are: Lensey Watson, Caleb Shepherd, Will Pohlman, Sara Guillen, Jacie Sweeney, Jessica Breslau, Kyra Campbell and Sarah Mason. }

ANSC Report Available

The Department has recently released its 18th Research Series publication.

The Animal Science Report is an annual report of research-based information that helps in development of best management practices increasing whole farm/ranch efficiency.

Thank you to the many supporters of our teaching, research, and extension programs.



Whether providing grants for research and extension, funds for scholarships, supporting educational and extension programs, donating facilities or horses and livestock, these friends are essential to maintaining a quality

Animal Science program.

The Report can be found at: <http://arkansasagnews.uark.edu/628.pdf> }

Pre-Vet

The Pre-Vet club has had their usual slate of meetings, as well as recently hosting a representative from Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine.

The representative spoke with the group about the program they offer as well as some of the admissions process. In early November several members volunteered at

the Pet-Wellness Expo, where they helped with vaccinations and preventative care of dogs and cats.

Most recently the group meet with Dr. Powell, who spoke with the club about general vet school admissions.

The group is looking forward to planning more activities in the Spring. }

Clubs Promote Animal Science Department

Some of the Department's students took time out of their crazy first week of school schedules to help promote the Department at Razorbash.

Members of the Animal Science REPS, Pre-Vet club and Block and Bridle club staffed a table on the Union Lawn, handing



Grad students help demonstrate the "bacon-selfie."

out Animal Science information. bacon and taking "#baconselvie."

Razorbash is a University wide event, which allows freshmen the chance to learn about different departments and clubs, as well as the numerous local business that attend. }

First Time Lab Offers Nutrition Students Hands-On Experience

Dr. Ken Coffey recently tried a new lab in conjunction with his Applied Nutrition class. The lab required students to mix various ingredients based on diets they formulated for a previous assignment. After weighing the ingredients, the student mixed them using a coffee can mixer that Coffey created. The feed mixture was then transferred to plastic bags, where some left air in and others removed air.

"It was cool to see how small concentrates can mix in and you don't even see it," Zac Krug, Animal Science junior said. "It was really cool, probably the coolest thing we've done."

Students evaluated the feed immediately after bagging it, and noted the settling of fine particles, consistency and odor. They will continue to evaluate the feed bags over the next four weeks for each of the above traits as well as any visual mold.

According to Coffey, the point of the lab was to give students a hands-on demonstration of how specific feed ingredients, processing methods and time after mixing affect visual and olfactory feed characteristics. "I want the students to be able to better visualize the problems with feed mixing," Coffey explained. Those problems can include: how molasses and oil can affect the shelf life of a feed; what mixing problems can result with molasses including residual in the feed mixer; and how molasses or oil affects dustiness and helps finer ingredients stay mixed.

"It was a good hands-on experience,"



Krug said. "Especially for those students who don't really know what is going on, which is the statistic." This is the first time

the class has completed this lab, and Coffey is pleased with the results and looking forward to running this lab with future classes. }

Graduate Students Bring Halloween Spirit to the Department

The Animal Science Graduate Student Association hosted several Halloween festivities this year. Faculty, staff and students were invited to participate in a costume, scary food and door decorating contests.

The ASGSA invited staff from the dean's office to be the judges, to keep things fair. Contest winners were:

Costume: Ashley Young & Mackenzie Foster

Food: Jamie Newberry

Door Decorations: Jeannie Hornsby

After the judging was done the food entries began to disappear, they were tasty, while everyone mingled. }



Jogan Named New Equine Instructor

Dr. Kathi Jogan was recently selected as the new equine instructor, she will be teaching both equine and general animal science courses.

"I have been involved with the U of A Department of Animal Science Equine Program for over a decade. There are many things that make our Department and College unique and a great place to work," Jogan said. For starters, many members of the faculty are not only well accomplished researchers but are wonderful teachers as well. What you can't see from the outside looking in is that everyone – from the staff to the professors to the Department Head goes the extra mile to help the students. If you spend even just a day in

our department – this becomes very apparent.

After graduating from a small college in Pennsylvania, she went on to the University of Maryland where she took all of the equine courses they offered. After managing equine breeding and foaling farms and training Thoroughbred racehorses, she taught at Louisiana Tech and took masters courses in equine science. Upon her return to Fayetteville, she earned a masters degree in Agricultural Education and then a doctorate in Higher Education.

Jogan loves to travel and her favorite place

to visit is New Zealand. "What most people don't realize is that the beautiful scenery in movies like The Lord of the Rings is actually real. Breathtaking landscapes, glaciers, rainforests, volcanoes, a fascinating culture, not overly populated, lots of animals, caring about the environment with an eye toward sustainability, no snakes and great sea food..... It really doesn't get much better than that," she explained. }



Kathi in New Zealand



Dale Bumpers College
of Agricultural, Food
and Life Sciences
Alumni Society

ARKANSAS ALUMNI

How to Join:

You automatically become a member of the DBCAFLS Alumni Society when you become an active member of the Arkansas Alumni Association. Join online at <http://www.arkansasalumni.org/> or call (479) 575-2801 to become a member today.

In small and big ways, your gifts change lives. Increasing private gift support is critical to moving the University of Arkansas and the state of Arkansas forward. If you would like to join other alumni and friends to support the Department of Animal Science at the University of Arkansas, contact, Trina Holman, Development Office, Bumpers College, E-108 AFLS, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, (479) 575-2179, or email: tfholman@uark.edu

Tell us about yourself!

Submit online under the Alumni tab at AnimalScience.uark.edu!

We would like to hear how and what you're doing. Please use this form to provide information about yourself that you would like to see in the Alumni news section of a future Animal Science Newsletter.

Name: _____
Address: _____

Email: _____
Phone: _____

U of A Degree: B.S. ☐ Year _____
M.S. ☐ Year _____
Ph.D. ☐ Year _____

Mail to:
Newsletter Editor
Department of Animal Science
University of Arkansas
AFLS B-114
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701 or Fax to: 479-575-7294

Would you like to receive our E-Newsletter? Yes No

News:

Department Welcomes New Faculty in Little Rock and Fayetteville

The Department is very excited to welcome four new faculty members that have joined us over the past several months, and one staff who is now a member of the faculty. Please read on for a little “mini” interview with these outstanding new additions to our Department!

Dr. Heidi Ward

1. What is your job title and your role in the Department?

My job title is Assistant Professor and Veterinarian. My role in the Department of Animal Science is to educate livestock producers in Arkansas on animal health. I am also the director of the 4-H Veterinary Science Program.

2. What is your educational background?

My bachelor's degree is in psychology with a minor in zoology from the University of Oklahoma. I was fascinated with the neurobiology of memory,



Dr. Heidi Ward

so I entered the Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. I graduated with a doctorate degree in molecular cell biology focusing my research on genetic diseases. During my graduate studies, I visited several ranches in Montana on my spring and summer breaks. Because

I enjoyed working with the animals so much, my friends suggested that I become a veterinarian. I agreed and attended Oklahoma State Center for Veterinary Health Sciences after receiving my Ph.D. and concurrently conducted post-doctoral research at the Oklahoma State Lung Biology and Toxicology Laboratory.

3. Tell us something about your family.

I come from a family of scientists and teachers. My father is a chemist. My mother is an elementary school teacher and pastor. Eldest brother is an entomologist and my second brother is a school superintendent. My sister is a writer and real estate manager.

4. What is your favorite time of year?

I love autumn with the crisp, cool air and vibrant colors. It also helps that my birthday is in autumn as well as Halloween, my favorite holiday.

Dr. Chelsey Ahrens

1. What is your job title and your role in the Department?

Specialty Livestock/Youth Education Specialist. My role is two-fold. I'm the Specialty Livestock Specialist which encompasses everything besides beef cattle and horses – sheep, goats, hogs, dairy cattle, and other livestock. The Youth Education Specialist role is being the 4-H Livestock Specialist where I'm responsible for all 4-H livestock related activities.



Dr. Chelsey Ahrens

2. What is your educational background?

My bachelor's is in animal science from the University of Arkansas with minors in agricultural business and agricultural communications. I have a master's in agricultural leadership from the University of Georgia. My Ph.D. is in agricultural communications from Texas Tech University.

3. Tell us something about yourself.

I LOVE to be in the kitchen and bake and cook. It's a stress reliever for me.

4. What is your favorite thing about working in the Department of Animal Science so far?

I love the laid back, family atmosphere that the people in the Animal Science Department have created.

Dr. James Koltes

1. What is your job title and your role in the Department?

Assistant Professor of Epigenetics (though I will cover genetics and genomics as well)

Lots of folks ask me what is epigenetics. Well, Epigenetics is the study of heritable factors passed from parents to offspring “above” the DNA. Epigenetics seeks to understand how the environment (including everything from diet, management, the natural environment, stress, disease, medicine, etc.) can impact how your DNA blueprint works to shape growth,



Dr. James Koltes

health, reproduction and other traits and how these “environmental” factors in one individual can impact these traits in the next 1-2 generations of offspring. A hot topic in epigenetics that was named a top area of interest to beef producers was the impact of maternal programming on calves.

2. What is your educational background?

B.S., University of Wisconsin with majors in dairy science and genetics; Ph.D., Iowa State University, major in genetics; Fulbright Fellow, University of Liege, Belgium

3. What is your favorite thing about working in the Department of Animal Science so far?

I really enjoy the friendliness of folks. Within the Division of Ag and Bumpers College, I feel a strong commitment to agriculture that not all universities have and I greatly appreciate this.

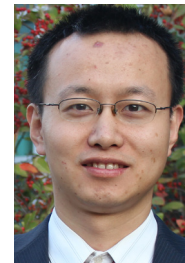
4. Do you have a favorite food?

BBQ (beef or pork), though it's hard to beat a good steak.

Dr. Yan Huang

1. What is your job title and your role in the Department?

Assistant Professor in the Department of Animal Science. My role here is to strengthen the research in molecular and gene regulation in muscle and meat science.



Dr. Yan Huang

2. What is your educational background?

I received my B.S. at the China Agriculture University in Animal Science; my M.S. degree in Animal Resource and Science from Dankook University in South Korea; and my PhD in Animal Science from the University of Wyoming.

3. What is your favorite book?

My favorite book is a science fiction novel The Three Body Problem, and its sequels The Dark Forest and Death's End.

4. What is your favorite time of year?

Chinese New Year }

ANSC
{animal science}

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